

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A system for storing and retrieving data, comprising:
 - 2 an identifier including three or more variables for identifying each data stored in said
 - 3 system.
- 1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein one of said three or more variables is a device identification variable.
- 1 3. The system of claim 2, further includes a timestamp for prioritizing said data.
- 1 4. The system of claim 3, wherein one of said variables may be filled by a wildcard.
- 1 5. The system of claim 4, wherein said system includes a registry for storing said data.
- 1 6. The system of claim 5, wherein said registry is provided in a database structure.
- 1 7. The system of claim 1, wherein said three or more variables includes a device identification variable, an application identification variable and a user identification variable.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, further including a timestamp for prioritizing data.
- 1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein one of said variables may be filled by a wildcard.
- 1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein said system includes a registry and said registry includes a database structure for storing said data.
- 1 11. A registry for storing and retrieving preference data, comprising:
 - 2 an identifier including at least three variables for identifying a data stored in said registry.

1 12. The registry of claim 11, further comprising a means for providing a floating
2 value to said at least three variables.

1 13. The registry means of claim 12, further comprising a means for associating a time
2 stamp to said data.

1 14. A method for storing and retrieving data in a system, comprising the step of:
2 identifying each stored data in said system by an identifier including three or more
3 variables.

1 15. A method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of storing data in a
2 registry.

1 16. A method according to claim 15, wherein one of said three or more variables is a
2 device identification variable.

1 17. A method according to claim 16, further including the step of time stamping said
2 data for prioritizing said data.

1 18. A method according to claim 17, further including the step of filling one of said
2 variables with a wildcard.

1 19. A method according to claim 18, further including the step of deleting one or
2 more data items that has been superseded by a subsequent data having same identifier but a
3 higher time stamp value.

1 20. A method according to claim 19, wherein said registry is provided in a database
2 structure.